

Interview Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/029,797	WHITE ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Linda Krisciunas	3623	

All participants (applicant, applicant's representative, PTO personnel):

(1) Linda Krisciunas. (3)_____.

(2) Attorney Jeramie Keys (). (4)_____.

Date of Interview: 25 August 2006.

Type: a) ☒ Telephonic b) ☐ Video Conference
c) ☐ Personal [copy given to: 1) ☐ applicant 2) ☐ applicant's representative]

Exhibit shown or demonstration conducted: d) ☒ Yes e) ☐ No.

If Yes, brief description: See Examiner's Amendment draft dated August 24, 2006.

Claim(s) discussed: 1-30.

Identification of prior art discussed: _____.

Agreement with respect to the claims f) ☒ was reached. g) ☐ was not reached. h) ☐ N/A.

Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments: The Examiner's proposed amendments draft dated August 24, 2006 were accepted by the applicant's attorney Mr Keys. The amendments filed by the applicant on August 13, 2006 will be replaced by the Examiner's Amendments draft dated August 24, 2006.

(A fuller description, if necessary, and a copy of the amendments which the examiner agreed would render the claims allowable, if available, must be attached. Also, where no copy of the amendments that would render the claims allowable is available, a summary thereof must be attached.)

THE FORMAL WRITTEN REPLY TO THE LAST OFFICE ACTION MUST INCLUDE THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. (See MPEP Section 713.04). If a reply to the last Office action has already been filed, APPLICANT IS GIVEN A NON-EXTENDABLE PERIOD OF THE LONGER OF ONE MONTH OR THIRTY DAYS FROM THIS INTERVIEW DATE, OR THE MAILING DATE OF THIS INTERVIEW SUMMARY FORM, WHICHEVER IS LATER, TO FILE A STATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. See Summary of Record of Interview requirements on reverse side or on attached sheet.

Examiner Note: You must sign this form unless it is an Attachment to a signed Office action.

Examiner's signature, if required

Summary of Record of Interview Requirements

Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (MPEP), Section 713.04, Substance of Interview Must be Made of Record

A complete written statement as to the substance of any face-to-face, video conference, or telephone interview with regard to an application must be made of record in the application whether or not an agreement with the examiner was reached at the interview.

Title 37 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) § 1.133 Interviews

Paragraph (b)

In every instance where reconsideration is requested in view of an interview with an examiner, a complete written statement of the reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action must be filed by the applicant. An interview does not remove the necessity for reply to Office action as specified in §§ 1.111, 1.135. (35 U.S.C. 132)

37 CFR §1.2 Business to be transacted in writing.

All business with the Patent or Trademark Office should be transacted in writing. The personal attendance of applicants or their attorneys or agents at the Patent and Trademark Office is unnecessary. The action of the Patent and Trademark Office will be based exclusively on the written record in the Office. No attention will be paid to any alleged oral promise, stipulation, or understanding in relation to which there is disagreement or doubt.

The action of the Patent and Trademark Office cannot be based exclusively on the written record in the Office if that record is itself incomplete through the failure to record the substance of interviews.

It is the responsibility of the applicant or the attorney or agent to make the substance of an interview of record in the application file, unless the examiner indicates he or she will do so. It is the examiner's responsibility to see that such a record is made and to correct material inaccuracies which bear directly on the question of patentability.

Examiners must complete an Interview Summary Form for each interview held where a matter of substance has been discussed during the interview by checking the appropriate boxes and filling in the blanks. Discussions regarding only procedural matters, directed solely to restriction requirements for which interview recordation is otherwise provided for in Section 812.01 of the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure, or pointing out typographical errors or unreadable script in Office actions or the like, are excluded from the interview recordation procedures below. Where the substance of an interview is completely recorded in an Examiners Amendment, no separate Interview Summary Record is required.

The Interview Summary Form shall be given an appropriate Paper No., placed in the right hand portion of the file, and listed on the "Contents" section of the file wrapper. In a personal interview, a duplicate of the Form is given to the applicant (or attorney or agent) at the conclusion of the interview. In the case of a telephone or video-conference interview, the copy is mailed to the applicant's correspondence address either with or prior to the next official communication. If additional correspondence from the examiner is not likely before an allowance or if other circumstances dictate, the Form should be mailed promptly after the interview rather than with the next official communication.

The Form provides for recordation of the following information:

- Application Number (Series Code and Serial Number)
- Name of applicant
- Name of examiner
- Date of interview
- Type of interview (telephonic, video-conference, or personal)
- Name of participant(s) (applicant, attorney or agent, examiner, other PTO personnel, etc.)
- An indication whether or not an exhibit was shown or a demonstration conducted
- An identification of the specific prior art discussed
- An indication whether an agreement was reached and if so, a description of the general nature of the agreement (may be by attachment of a copy of amendments or claims agreed as being allowable). Note: Agreement as to allowability is tentative and does not restrict further action by the examiner to the contrary.
- The signature of the examiner who conducted the interview (if Form is not an attachment to a signed Office action)

It is desirable that the examiner orally remind the applicant of his or her obligation to record the substance of the interview of each case. It should be noted, however, that the Interview Summary Form will not normally be considered a complete and proper recordation of the interview unless it includes, or is supplemented by the applicant or the examiner to include, all of the applicable items required below concerning the substance of the interview.

A complete and proper recordation of the substance of any interview should include at least the following applicable items:

- 1) A brief description of the nature of any exhibit shown or any demonstration conducted,
- 2) an identification of the claims discussed,
- 3) an identification of the specific prior art discussed,
- 4) an identification of the principal proposed amendments of a substantive nature discussed, unless these are already described on the Interview Summary Form completed by the Examiner,
- 5) a brief identification of the general thrust of the principal arguments presented to the examiner,
(The identification of arguments need not be lengthy or elaborate. A verbatim or highly detailed description of the arguments is not required. The identification of the arguments is sufficient if the general nature or thrust of the principal arguments made to the examiner can be understood in the context of the application file. Of course, the applicant may desire to emphasize and fully describe those arguments which he or she feels were or might be persuasive to the examiner.)
- 6) a general indication of any other pertinent matters discussed, and
- 7) if appropriate, the general results or outcome of the interview unless already described in the Interview Summary Form completed by the examiner.

Examiners are expected to carefully review the applicant's record of the substance of an interview. If the record is not complete and accurate, the examiner will give the applicant an extendable one month time period to correct the record.

Examiner to Check for Accuracy

If the claims are allowable for other reasons of record, the examiner should send a letter setting forth the examiner's version of the statement attributed to him or her. If the record is complete and accurate, the examiner should place the indication, "Interview Record OK" on the paper recording the substance of the interview along with the date and the examiner's initials.

Draft Examiner's Amendment for 10/029797-August 24, 2006

1. A method for managing groups responsible for pit activities, the method comprising the steps of:

- populating database fields of a web application by an engineering group with data that specifies details of pits, wherein the population is conducted manually and automatically from both legacy Computer Automated Design systems and legacy visual basic systems;

- providing the technician manager group with limited access to the web application a first time,

- receiving from the technician manager via the web application during the first time a first command into the web application that instructs the pit contractor group to open a pit, wherein the technician management group has read access to all data fields in the database related to the first command;

- providing the pit contractor group with limited access to the web application a first time,

- executing the first command by opening the pit, wherein the command is issued from the technician manager to the pit contractor group via the web application and providing the pit contractor group with read access to all of the data fields required to successfully execute the first command to open the pit during the first time;

- providing the pit contractor group with limited access to the web application a second time,

- receiving a response into the web application from the pit contractor that the first command has been completed by opening the pit, wherein the response includes additional data related to the completion of the first command wherein the additional data comprises the location of the pit and details regarding how the pit was opened;

- providing the technician manager group with limited access to the web application a second time,

- receiving from the technician manager during the second time a second command that instructs the technician group to perform a cable task within the pits of the first command into the web application wherein the technician manager group has read access to all data fields in the database related to the second command;

- providing the technician group with limited access to the web application a first time,

- receiving by the technician group via the web application during the first time the second command from the technician manager group providing the technician group with read only access to the data fields required to successfully execute the second command,

- executing the second command by performing the cable task within the pit once it is opened by the pit contractor,

- providing the technician group with limited access to the web application a second time,

- receiving a response from the technician group via the web application during the second time that the second command has been completed, wherein the response includes additional data related to the completion of the second command that comprises the number of hours required to complete the cable task within the pit and wherein the write access to respond is via the technician manager group;

providing the technician manager group with limited access to the web application a third time,

receiving from the technician group via the web application during the third time a third command to close the pit where the cable task has been completed wherein the technician manager group has read access to all data fields in the database related to the third command;

providing the pit contractor group with limited access to the web application a third time,

receiving by the pit contractor group via the web application during the third time the third command from the technician manager group and providing the pit contractor group with read access to all of the data fields required to successfully execute the third command,

executing the third command by closing the pit where the cable task has been completed;

and providing the pit contractor group with limited access to the web application a fourth time,

receiving from the pit contractor group via the web application during the fourth time that the third command has been completed, wherein the response includes additional data related to the completion of the third command including where the pit was closed and details regarding how the pit was closed; wherein further responses of the pit contractor and technician groups also includes high priority e-mail.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 , wherein the web application is accessed through a global internet and a local intranet.

3. Cancelled

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the steps must occur in chronological order.

5-7. Cancelled

8. (Currently Amended) A method for managing groups responsible for pit activities, the method comprising:

populating the fields of a database by an engineering group with data that specifies details of a pit, wherein the population is conducted manually and automatically from both legacy Computer Automated Design systems and legacy visual basic systems;

providing a technician manager group with limited write access to the web application a first time;

receiving first information from the technician manager group during the first time into the web application regarding opening the pit by the pit contractor group;

executing opening the pit;

providing the pit contractor group with access to the web application during a first time, a step of receiving by the pit contractor during the first time the first information from the technician manager group via the web application;

providing the pit contractor group with limited write access to the web application a second time,

receiving a second information from the pit contractor during the second time into the web application regarding where and how the pit was opened by the pit contractor;
providing the technician manager group with access to the web application a second time,

receiving by the technician manager group during the second time the second information and providing limited write access to the technician manager group

receiving a third information from the technician manager group during the second time into the web application regarding performing a cable related task within the pit;

executing the cable related task;

providing the technician group with access to the web application a first time,

receiving by the technician group during the first time via the web application the third information from the technician manager group;

providing the technician group with access to the web application via the technician manager group during a second time,

receiving a fourth information from the technician group via during second time into the web application regarding completion of the cable related task within the pit;

providing the technician manager group with access to the web application a third time,

receiving by the technician manager via the web application during the third time the fourth information and providing limited write access to place a fifth information into the web application regarding closing the pit by the pit contractor;

executing closing the pit;

providing the pit contractor group with access to the web application a third time,

receiving by the pit contractor group via the web application during the third time the fifth information from the technician manager group; and

providing the pit contractor group with limited write access to the web application a fourth time,

receiving from the pit contractor during the fourth time a sixth information into the web application regarding where and how the pit was closed by the pit contractor.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 8, wherein the web application must be accessed through a global internet.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9, wherein the web application must be accessed through a security firewall between the global internet and the web application.

11-13. Cancelled

14. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the first, third, and fifth information are commands.

15. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the second information responds to the first information, the fourth information responds to the third information, and the sixth information responds to the fifth information.

16-23 Cancelled.

24. (Currently Amended) A method for managing a plurality of groups responsible for pit activities, the method comprising the steps of:

- creating a central body of information by an engineering group with data that specifies details of a pit, wherein the population is conducted manually and automatically from both legacy Computer Automated Design systems and legacy visual basic systems;
- providing a technician manager group of the plurality of groups with limited write access to a central body of information;
- receiving information into the central body of information in real time regarding opening a pit and performing a cable task within the pit once the pit is opened;
- providing a pit contractor group of the plurality of groups with unlimited read access to the central body of information a first time;
- receiving by the pit contractor during the first time information from the technician manager group in real time from the central body of information to be instructed regarding opening the pit;
- executing the task of opening the pit;
- providing the pit contractor group of the plurality of groups with limited write access to the central body of information during a second time;
- receiving information from the pit contractor during the second time into the central body of information in real time regarding completion of opening the pit;
- providing a technician group of the plurality of groups with unlimited read access to the central body of information during a first time;
- receiving by the technician group during the first time information from the technician manager group in real time from the central body of information regarding performing the cable task within the pit;
- providing the technician group with limited and indirect access through the first group to the central body of information to place information into the central body of information during a second time;
- receiving information from the technician group during the second time into the central body of information in real time regarding completion of the cable task;
- executing the cable task;
- providing a fourth group of the plurality of groups with limited write access to the central body of information a first time;
- receiving information into the central body in real time from the fourth group during the first time;
- providing the pit contractor group of the plurality of groups with unlimited read access to the central body of information during a third time;
- receiving by the pit contractor group during the third time via the central body of information that information from the fourth group of the plurality of groups in real time;
- and
- providing the pit contractor group of the plurality of groups with limited write access to the central body of information a fourth time;
- receiving information from the pit contractor group during the fourth time into the central body of information in real time, where the body of information received during the fourth time comprises at least, the time a pit was opened, the time the pit was closed, the location of the pit, reports that the pit is unsafe, reports about disputes arising from

the pit's existence, the time period from a request to open a pit to its opening and the time from a request to close a pit to its closing.
executing closing of the pit.

25. (Amended) A method for managing a plurality of internal and external groups responsible for pit activities, the method comprising the steps of:
providing the plurality of internal groups comprising a technician manager group with a first access to a central body of information a first time;
receiving from the technician manager group during the first time a first information regarding opening of a pit into the central body of information, wherein the first access comprises unlimited read access and limited write access;
executing the step of opening the pit;
providing the plurality of external groups comprising a pit contractor with a second access to the central body of information;
receiving by the pit contractor the first information from the central body of information;
receiving from the pit contractor a second information regarding completion of closing the pit into the central body of information, wherein the second access comprises unlimited read access and limited write access; and
providing the plurality of internal groups comprising the technician manager group with the first access to the central body of information a second time;
receiving by the technician manager group the second information from the central body of information during the second time; and
executing the closing of the pit.

26. (Original) The method of claim 25, wherein the first access is provided through an intranet.

27. (Original) The method of claim 26, wherein the second access is provided through a global internet.

28. (Original) The method of claim 25, wherein the first information is a command directed to one or more of the plurality of external groups.

29. (Original) The method of claim 28, wherein the second information responds to the first information.

30. (Original) The method of 29, wherein the central body of information is a computer network application designed to be accessed through a global internet.